

THE EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE FOR ALL CHILDREN ACT OF 1999
Section-by-Section Analysis

Section 2. Table of Contents. Section 2 of the bill would set out the table of contents for the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq., hereinafter in the section-by-section analysis referred to as "the ESEA") as it would be amended by the bill.

Section 3. America's Education Goals. Section 3 of the bill would rename the National Education Goals (currently in Title I of the Goals 2000: Educate America Act, P.L. 103-227), as "America's Education Goals" and update the Goals to reflect our Nation's continuing need for the Goals. Even though all the Goals will not have been reached by the year 2000 as originally hoped, nor accomplished to equal degrees, the Goals were purposely designed to set high expectations for educational performance at every stage of an individual's life, and there is a continued need to reaffirm these Goals as a benchmark to which all students can strive and attain. With policymakers, educators, and the public united in an effort to achieve America's Education Goals, the Nation will be able to raise its overall level of educational achievement.

Section 3(a) of the bill would contain findings concerning America's Education Goals, as well as descriptions of areas in which the Nation as a whole, as well as individual States, have been successful (or unsuccessful) at making progress toward achieving the various Goals during the last decade.

In order to reflect the overarching importance of America's Education Goals, section 3(b) of the bill would amend the ESEA to place the Goals in a proposed new section 3 of the ESEA. Proposed new section 3(a) of the ESEA would state the purpose of America's Education Goals as: setting forth a common set of national goals for the education of our Nation's students that the Federal Government and all States and local communities will work to achieve; identifying the Nation's highest education priorities related to preparing students for responsible citizenship, further learning, and the technological, scientific, economic, challenges of the 21st century; and establishing

a framework for educational excellence at the national, State, and local levels. Proposed new section 3(b) of the ESEA would state the Goals.

Title I of the Goals 2000: Educate America Act, the current authority for the National Education Goals, would be repealed by section 1211 of the bill.

Section 4. Transition. Section 4 of the bill would specify the actions that the Secretary must, and a recipient of ESEA funds may, take as part of the transition between the requirements of the ESEA as in effect the day before the date of enactment of the Educational Excellence for All Children Act of 1999, and the requirements of the ESEA as amended by the bill.

Under section 4(a) of the bill, the Secretary would be required to take such steps as the Secretary determines to be appropriate to provide for the orderly transition to programs and activities under the ESEA, as amended by the bill, from programs and activities under the ESEA, as it was in effect the date before the date of enactment of the bill.

Under section 4(b) of the bill, a recipient of funds under the ESEA, as it was in effect the date before the date of enactment of the bill, may use such funds to carry out necessary and reasonable planning and transition activities in order to ensure a smooth implementation of programs and activities under the ESEA, as amended by the bill.

Section 5. Effective Dates. Section 5 of the bill would set out the effective dates for the bill. The bill would take effect July 1, 2000, except for those amendments made by the bill that pertain to programs administered by the Secretary on a competitive basis, and the amendments made by Title VIII of the bill (Impact Aid), which would take effect with respect to appropriations for fiscal year 2001 and subsequent fiscal years, and amendments made by section 4 of the bill (transition requirements), which would take effect upon enactment.